

one but Mr. ——— (mentioning my name). "Now, I hope you will take it kindly and give me credit for my wishes in the matter." I assured him that I was perfectly satisfied with the arrangement, and thought the lady did quite right in demanding the services of her own pastor on the occasion.

He thanked me very cordially, assuring me he experienced great relief from my attitude as thus discovered, and, still looking into vacancy, he paid me what he supposed was a compliment. It seems that the rector in question had exchanged with a neighbor on the previous Sunday, and he observed that the supply was far inferior as a preacher to the regular incumbent. Thinking he had done his best to get out of a difficulty, he moved off at a rapid pace, without discovering the mistaken identity.

The next day we met again, and he burst out laughing. When able to speak, he asked: "Why did you not kick me yesterday when I was making such a fool of myself?" He told the story himself at the wedding dinner, amid much laughter.

A. H. S.

#### Meanest Parishioner.

I HAVE found him. He came to me to be married; said his girl was modest, wished to shun publicity, and would like to come with a few warm personal friends and be married at my house. My wife and I threw open the parlors and turned on all the gas, and made everything as lovely as possible. The ceremony over, the party, who had driven in carriages in the most stylish way, re-entered their hacks and departed, the "best man" leaving a sealed envelope in my hand, which, when opened, disclosed a check on one of our leading banks for \$30. We were, of course, very happy; but not so a day or two afterward, when, presenting the check, we learned that it was utterly worthless, as our generous friend had not then and never had had, a cent of money in the bank. We of course swallowed our indignation and said nothing; but that night about nine o'clock the "best man" came to inquire about the contents of the envelope he had so innocently handed us, saying that upon a similar check, but drawn upon a *different bank*, where the groom had never made a deposit or owned a cent, he had advanced the money and paid for the carriages and all the other expenses of the wedding. The bride was a beautiful and accomplished girl. By some inadvertence she learned of the bogus checks, and was so overwhelmed with mortification that the groom was forced to come and make a pitiful apology, and promise to redeem the check; but up to this time the parson only holds a promise as worthless as the original check, and at last accounts the "best man" was still out for the carriages. Surrender the case and send on your prize.

W. D. T.

I WAS called to assist in a meeting in Texas recently, where I found my "meanest parish-

ioner." He is worth \$40,000. His wife was dangerously ill. He dismissed the attending physicians to decrease expenses. The elders of the church called to see him on the subject, and asked him if he would let his wife suffer for want of attention because it cost something. He replied that he was not going to die poor himself.

J. W. H.

#### General Clerical Anecdotes.

WE were engaged in holding a protracted meeting and were having a very precious time, in which many were being converted and added to the Church. There was a family in the town in which was a sweet little girl of about two years old, and she and I were very fond of each other. One evening as I was engaged in prayer, just before preaching, and while my whole thought and soul were being poured forth in earnest petitions for Divine grace, this little child noiselessly left her parents, and made her way up the aisle, and on to the rostrum at my back, all unknown to them or to me, and, raising her little hands, brought them down, one on each of my shoulders, with all her force and with a scream of delight, which so startled me that I sprang to my feet. All who had watched the performance were convulsed with laughter, and all that I could think of was "Amen," which I said and sat down. But upon remembering where I was I called for a hymn. It was sung with some difficulty. I then called on a good Bro. to pray, after which I was sufficiently composed to enter upon my discourse.

A. M. O.

WHEN a prominent contributor to this review was settled in a New England town he attended the Monday morning ministers' meeting at the house of Rev. John Todd, D. D. According to the usual custom, each minister told about his Sunday's sermon. When it came to this young man he told of the excellent impression that was made by his morning sermon, and said it was due in a great degree to a forcible illustration that he used; and then told his brethren the story of a boy climbing up the steep side of the Natural Bridge, cutting his way up in the lime stone, until his knife dropped from his tired hand, and then held on until a rope was let down to save him. He urged all the ministers to use such illustrations. Dr. Todd replied in his peculiar way, "Yes! I have used that same illustration. *I wrote it when I was a Sophomore.*"

C. J. H.

A CLERGYMAN in Iowa, in one of the larger cities, announced at the close of his service that the German brethren would hold a series of meetings in the church during the week, and added that he hoped the *white* brethren would avail themselves of the invitation to be present also. He meant English brethren. It is needless to say that a smile played over the faces of the congregation, while he hurriedly pronounced the benediction.

D. A. W.